Council is for three years, necessarily such a contingency should happen. I think, the Road Board members to prepare the scheme should be so chosen that they will be in the Council for at least three years.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ : ചേന്നം ദ്വീപിലേയ്ക്ക് ഒരു വഴിവേണമെന്നവാദം തുടങ്ങീട്ട് വളരെകാലമായി. ഇവിടെ ഒരു റോഡുബോർഡുണ്ട്. അതിന്റെ പേരും പറഞ്ഞു ജനങ്ങൾക്കത്യാവശ്യമുള്ള റോഡുണ്ടാക്കാതിരിക്കുക, അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആക്ഷേപിക്കുകയൊ അപേക്ഷിക്കുകയൊ ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ പബ്ലിക്ക് വർക്സ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിൽ പോകാനും അവിടെ ചെല്ലുമ്പോൾ റോഡു ബോർഡിന്റെ അടുക്കൽ ചെല്ലാൻ പറയും. റോഡുബോർഡിന്റെ അടുക്കൽ ചെല്ലുമ്പോൾ പഞ്ചായത്തിന്റെ അടുക്കൽ ചെല്ലാൻ പറയും, ഇങ്ങിനെ അങ്ങോട്ടും ഇങ്ങോട്ടും നടത്തുന്നതിനല്ലാതെ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ആവശ്യമുള്ള വഴിയുണ്ടാക്കി കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനല്ല ഈ ബോർഡുകളും മറ്റുമുണ്ടാക്കീട്ടുള്ളത്. റോഡാവശ്യക്കാരെ വെറുതെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിക്കുവാൻ മാത്രമെ ഇതുകൊണ്ടുപകരിക്കുന്നുള്ളൂ.

ഒരു ഗ്രാമോദ്ധാരണ മന്ത്രിയെ തന്നു ഞങ്ങളെ രണ്ടു പാർട്ടികളാക്കി പിരിച്ചു നിറുത്തി അന്യോന്യം തമ്മിൽ തല്ലിക്കാനുള്ള ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്തപോലെയാണ് ഈ ബോർഡിന്റെ രൂപീകരണവും (ഹിയർ, ഹിയർ). ചേന്നം ദ്വീപിലെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു നടക്കാൻ വഴിയില്ലെന്നു ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനറിയാം. ആ ദ്വീപിൽ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരാരും താമസിക്കുന്നില്ല, അവർക്ക് അവിടെ ഭൂമിയില്ല, അവിടെ പോകേണ്ട ആവശ്യം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ നടക്കാനുള്ള വഴി മാത്രമല്ല കാർ കൊണ്ടുപോകാനുള്ള റോഡുപോലും ഉണ്ടാക്കുമായിരുന്നു. (ഹിയർ, ഹിയർ). ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഈ അനാശാസ്യകരമായ നില മേലാലെങ്കിലും ഉപേക്ഷിക്കണം എന്നുൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കുഞ്ഞൻ നമ്പൂതിരിപ്പാട് : ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും ഈ കാര്യം അടുത്തബോർഡിന്റെ പ്രോഗ്രാമിൽ പെടുത്താമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം പിൻവലിക്കുന്നു.

Motion by leave withdrawn

Cut Motion No. 17

Bridge to connect Kumbalam with the main land

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Sir, I beg to move *that the allotment of Rs. 4,16,872 for Communications shall be reduced by Re. 1.* My object is *to impress upon the Government the necessity of constructing at least one bridge connecting Kumbalam with the main land.*

Sir, sometime this year, I had the opportunity of moving a resolution whereby I demanded from the Government that at least one of the ferries connecting the mainland with the island of Kumbalam be made free, or, in the alternative, to reduce the fare that

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is now being charged on at least one of the ferries connecting Kumbalam with the mainland. My resolution was unfortunately defeated in this Council, because there was no sufficient support forthcoming from the members. Probably that was because the seriousness of the matter was not realised by the members when my resolution was discussed here. I wish to bring to the notice of the Council the fact that Kumbalam is a small island about 3—4 miles in length lying to the south of Ernakulam, with absolutely no means of communication with the mainland. There are 3—4 ferries connecting Kumbalam with the other islands in the neighbourhood and the mainland. The fare charged for these ferries varies from 6 pies to 2 pies. Most of the people residing in the island are very poor and the majority of them earn their livelihood by engaging themselves in small cottage industries and getting a daily income ranging from one anna to two annas. Out of this income, they will have to pay at least four pies for the purpose of crossing over either to one of the adjacent islands or to the mainland for the purpose of selling the products they manufacture in their homes. This condition is really pitiable. Since the Government appear to be not inclined to reduce the fare charged for these ferries or at least to make one of the ferries free to these poor people, I request them to construct one bridge either connecting this island with Nettur or with Ernakulam. As it is, the people find it extremely difficult to go out of this small island. There is not even a market there. For each and every purpose they have to go outside the island and they have to pay at least four pies every day. Since there are a number of such small islands lying to the south of Ernakulam, I think it would be worth constructing a bridge connecting Ernakulam and Kumbalam so that the people in Kumbalam as well as those living in the small islands of Panangad, Nettur etc., and other places might have more facilities to come to Ernakulam and transact their business. I do think it will cost the Government much. Even though the distance of the ferry now appears to be more than a furlong, I think most of the portion can be bunded up and a small bridge would suffice for the purpose. I, therefore, request the Government that at least one bridge may be constructed so that the people of Kumbalam may have facilities of going out of their island and come in contact with civilization. Trusting that this request would receive the kind consideration of the Government, I commend this motion for the acceptance of this House.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Sir, the purpose of the cut motion is to impress upon the Government either to reduce the fees for the ferries or in the alternative to construct

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a bridge connecting Thevara with Kumbalam. This question was considered by the last Road Board and they classified it, on account of its high cost of construction, as a work which is desirable to be postponed for want of funds. The position of the island of Kumbalam is similar to the position of Kumbalangi, almost the same distance of backwater between the mainland and the island. So, the question of a bridge there will be a very costly matter, and I do not know whether the service rendered by the bridge will be commensurate with the expenditure involved in it. As regards the reduction of the fees of the ferry, it stands almost on the same footing as the conditions in other places. I shall consult the Revenue Department in this matter and see what can be done.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* May I know, Sir, whether an estimate has been prepared for the construction of this bridge, and if so what the amount will come to?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I do not think an estimate has been prepared, because it was thought the expenditure involved will be very large. In this report even an approximate cost has not been placed.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Will the Government kindly enquire into the matter and see what will the cost come to? I think most of the distance can be bunded up and only a small bridge will be necessary.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I shall order a survey and shall ask to prepare an estimate for this work.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* In view of the Chief Engineer's remarks, I do not press the motion.

Motion by leave withdrawn.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Sir, since Mrs. A. N. Menon wants to move her cut motion and as I think that I should be a bit chivalrous, I request you to give me permission to move cut motions Nos. 18 and 21 together, so that much time may not be taken.

Panel Chairman: Do they relate to the same matter?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Both relate to the same matter. Both are identical.

Panel Chairman: Do they refer to the same bridge?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* No. They refer to two bridges, but for identical purposes *(Laughter)*.

Panel Chairman: Since they relate to two separate bridges, it is better that the hon'ble member moves them separately.

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